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LETTERS OF PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND "LADIES OF THE WHITE HOUSE."

(Continued from page 365.)

OAK HILL, Augt 5. 1828

DEAR SIR

I had the pleasure, on my return from the University of Virg^{a}, to receive your favor of the 29th ulto, and regret very much, that I have not been able to find, a copy of my letter to General La Fayette, inviting him, in complyance with a resolution of both houses of Congress, to make his late visit to our country. On my return from N. York, I had not time, to make the necessary examination of my papers, but since my return from the University, I have made a thorough search, and find the enclosed, only, which acknowledges the receipt of my letter, and informs me of a previous answer, which he had given to it. As I came through the city, I left a note for the dep't of State, requesting that a search might be made in it, for a copy of my letter with his answer, and have since been informed, that they have not been found. I am satisfied that they were either deposited there, or among the archives of the Executive, in the house of the President. In this, I am the more confirmed, from the circumstance, of having found among my papers here, the letter which I now enclose, relating to the same subject, but of a less official character. After perusing it, you will return it to me at your leisure. All that I can do, to promote your object, will be, if you will be so kind, as to forward to me, the copy which you have in French, to translate it for you into English. As I wrote the original, I presume, that a mere sketch of the ideas, will enable me to reduce it, into the proper form, or so nearly to it, as to make any deviation, altogether immaterial.

In recurring to my correspondence with Gen'l La Fayette,

my feelings have been much excited, because I have been carried back, to a very distant period, & in pursuing it, have reviewed the state in which I found his family in France, on my arrival there, in 1794; his wife being then in prison, in Paris, under the reign of terror, and he, at Ollmutz, under that of despotism. My correspondence with her, & his aids de camp, in regard to her deliverance from prison, and escape from France, to participate in his fortune, & with his aids, in what related to himself, cannot be read, even by an indifferent person, without great sensibility.

with very sincere regard I am
Dear Sir yours—

JAMES MONROE.[1]

MERIDIAN HILL
WASHINGTON 20 March 1829

THOMAS NEWTON ESQR NORFOLK VA.

MY DEAR SIR

I received your very kind Letter, dated on the day of the commencement of the new Administration and having had then a remnant of occupation postponed the answer due to it from day to day till it were ingratitude to delay it any longer. On taking leave of public life I cannot forbear to reciprocate the farewell of one with whom I have been a fellow Servant of the Nation now upwards of twenty-five years, and of whose political career and conduct I have so constantly witnessed the firmness and the integrity. If it has been truly said by a Roman Classic "idem velle, et idem nolle, eademum est amicetia"—the political friendship between you and me, is of long and uninterrupted standing —I can scarcely remember the occasion upon which a difference of opinion upon objects of any material importance has occurred between us—I hope you are still destined long to retain your Seat in the House and should witness cheerfully the Reform which should restore you to the Chair of the Committee of Commerce.

[1] Collection Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Your native Commonwealth is also about to reform her Constitution—I shall observe with great interest the changes of policy as they proceed in that "magna parens virum."—Her Constitution is doubtless susceptible of improvement; especially in the application of the principle of Representation—When the political Bark is launched it is not always easy to see at what Port the gale and the wave may land her—May it be in the Haven of Harmony; of Prosperity, and ready acquiescence in the lawful authority of the Union.

With my fervent good wishes for your individual happiness I remain

Dear Sir, your constant friend

J. Q. ADAMS.[1]

(PRIVATE.)

WASHINGTON 13 Mar'h 1837

SIR

I take the liberty to introduce to your notice, my Nephew Lieut Robert C Buchanan recently returned from Florida, where he served throught (*sic*) the Campaigns until disabled by loss of health—He was the friend and companion of poor Izard, and was with him when he died—

We are desirous that he should obtain something in the line of his Profession in Washington; and on the strength of former acquaintance, I am induced to recommend him to your attention—

Col. Twiggs, and Col. Cutler, will be his vouchers for good conduct—

I sieze the occasion with pleasure to offer the sentiment of respect of

LOUISA C. ADAMS.[2]

Addressed

J R POINSET ESQ.

Hon[d] by M[r] Buchanan

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

[2] Ibid.

MY DEAR MADAM HERMITAGE Janry 17th 1829

I have received by the hand of our mutual friend Mrs McLamare, the inestimable book which you were kind enough to present to me, to console me under my present affliction—I thank you kindly for this precious gift, & receive it as the highest evidence of your friendship, not only for me, but the dear partner & solace of my life, who, providence has taken to that clime where the wicked disturb not, "and the weary are at rest."

Could this world compensate her loss, it might be found in the reflection, that her virtues, her piety & christianity, has ensured her that future happiness, which is promised to the deciples of Christ—The valuable book you have presented teach me, that the feeling of resignation to the dispensation of providence, is only the feeling of despair, when unsupported by his grace—that grace which has taken from me the dear partner of my bosom, and admonishes me by its sudden, solemn, & afflictive influence that I must soon follow her—your invaluable present will aid me in my preparation to unite with her in the realms above never to be seperated.

I pray you to accept my sincere thanks for your kind present, with the assurance of my high respect friendship & esteem.

ANDREW JACKSON[1]

MRS FOGG
Nashville

MY DEAR SIR, HERMITAGE June 13th 1824

I received your kind & affectionate letter of the 21st ultº through Judge Overton; for which receive the warmest assurrances of mine, & my dear Husbands thanks.

It is a source of great pleasure to us to know that you are blessed with health, & the comforts of life; but above all that you have an amiable, & an excellent partner, without whom prosperity wants the charm of happy contentment,—with whom the ills of life whether in the shape of

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

sickness, or adverse fortune, become admonishing lessons from the Father of all mercies, & strengthen us in the hopes which are realised in the kingdom of Jesus—May you & your amiable lady feel such hopes in prosperity.

I saw a few days since your little daughter Mary. She is a beautiful, & promising girl; & enjoys good health. I shall never fail to attend to her with all the care in my power—Her Grandmother & family, who are well, treat her with great kindness & attention—

Be pleased to present me, with Mr J, to your lady, & accept our united prayers for your mutual health, & happiness.

RACHEL JACKSON.[1]

JNO. M. A. HAMBLEN, ESQR.

WASHINGTON Decr 27, 1839

DEAR SIR

The office of Attorney Genl. of the U. States has become vacant by the resignation of Mr Grundy. Although I have no reason to suppose that it would be desirable to you to change your present position in the public service, I have nevertheless felt it to be my duty to offer the seat in my Cabinet which has thus been placed at my disposal for your acceptance, and to assure you that it will afford me sincere pleasure to learn that it will be agreeable to you to accept it;—a sentiment in which those who would be your associates, will, I am confident, cordially participate.

Would you decide otherwise, the occasion will have been presented, & cheerfully embraced, to express the high sense I entertain of your talents and also my confidence in your patriotism, & friendship for the administration.

Please to let me hear from you at your earliest convenience, & believe me to be,

Very respectfully, &
truly your friend
& obedent Servt

M. VAN BUREN[2]

THE HONBLE
JAMES BUCHANAN.

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

[2] Buchanan Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

NORTH BEND (O) 20th Decr 1833

MY DEAR SIR

By the command of one of the Souvreigns of the Nation you represent in the Grand Council of Potentates I enclose you herewith a letter for him & some for other dignitatries which be pleased to deliver to him on his arrival at the capital.

You will see by the papers that the McLean flag has been hoisted in Cincinnati & some other places in Ohio. It will I think wave triumphant in that State I can form no opinion as to the other Western States.

I am Dr Sir
With great Regard
Your Hum Servt
W. H. HARRISON[1]

P. S. Will you have the goodness to introduce Benjamin to Judge Wilkins of your house & say that it was at my request & that I make the further one to him to introduce Benjamin to Mr. Muhlenburgh of the H. of R. from Pennsylvania.

Addressed,

HONBLE JOHN TYLER ESQ
of the Senate
U. S.
Washington D. C.

NORTHBEND Feby 13th 1852

SIR,

I now will comply with your request, would have done so sooner, but for my Indisspotion—perhaps it will not now, be too late—altho it would be quite as pleasing to *me* should it be so, I only wish to perform my Dutes in a plain unpretending way—Wishing that every blessing may be yours, Believe me your Friend

ANNA HARRISON[2]

CHARLES L. THEIL, ESQR

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
[2] Ibid.

VIRGINIA
SHERWOOD FOREST CHS CITY C. H.
March 27. 1855.

DEAR SIR:

I commanded a company of Riflemen during the war of 1812—which after serving with the 52 Regiment of Virginia Militia for a month at Williamsburg and Providence Forge in the county of New Kent, was transfer'd to the 2d Elitè corps of Virginia at Charles City Court House under the command of *Col.* afterwards *General* Moses Green, where I also serv'd a month as appears by my muster roll of file among the army returns which I presume are in the possession of your office—seeing that by the action of the last Congress I am entitled to land bounty and presuming that no other evidence is necessary to entitle me to it than a reference to information already before you, I respectfully solicit your attention to the claim.

I have the honor to be
Truly & Resply yrs
JOHN TYLER [1]

P. S. You will find my servant *William* most probably enterd *William Short*—also on the muster roll—He acted as my *Bowman*—Is he not entitled to a grant of land? If so I should be *highly* gratified to hand his patent to him—

The Commissioner—

MY DEAR MRS. MADISON

I cannot express my surprize and sorrow last night to hear from Annie what serious effects had resulted from the accident which befel you a few nights since—In answer to all my enquiries I have been informed the accident was slight and you were *quite well*—

May I hope to see you if I call to-morrow? I am literally overcome with the fatigues of last nights reception or I would beg to be admitted today.

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Let me know, Dear Mrs. Madison, your true condition by my Brother, who bears this to you, and believe me most sincerely

Your anxious friend
JULIA GARDINER TYLER[1]

PRESIDENTS MANSION
Wednesday Feby 5th
MRS. MADISON

WASHINGTON CITY March 19th 1847

GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of your excellent edition of the "Biography of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence," which you have presented to me.

Its general perusal cannot fail to increase the public admiration of the wisdom, and self sacraficing patriotism, of the illustrious founders of the free Government, under which it is our happy lot to live. The design and execution of the work, and the reduced price, at which you offer it to the public, must commend it to general favour, and will I am pursuaded obtain for it, a wide circulation.

Thanking you for the copy which you have presented to me,

I am With Great Respect
Your Ob^t Ser't,
JAMES K. POLK.[2]

To MESSRS
THOMAS COWPERTHWAITE & CO.
Philadelphia.

MY DEAR SIR,

Allow me to make my grateful acknowledgments to you and to assure you of my appreciation, for the kindness, you & your family have extended to my neice Mrs. Fall.

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
[2] Ibid.

To day I conclude, that she is with you enjoying the pleasure of your hospitable home. With that dear little child *Sadie*, who has long anticipated the visit. I do trust they may add to your pleasure.

Although advanced in years, I yet take much interest in the affairs of the country, what do you think of the political situation of the day?

I must make an apology, for this intrusion on your time, with a note without interest, but with many thanks, I am most respectfully,

& truly y^{rs}
MRS. POLK.[1]

"POLK PLACE"
Oct. 26, 1876

Addressed
MR. A. WELCH,
Chestnut Hill,
Philadelphia,
Pa.

WASHINGTON March 20th 1849

HON. J. M. CLAYTON
DEAR SIR

The communication of this day signed by Mess^{s} Meridith, Ewing and Johnson with your remarks embraced therein, on the subject of the appt of gov^{r} for Minesota has just reached me; in reply I beg leave to say, no nomination has been made to fill the place of the individual who was rejected for that situation; nor will there be until I can consult with the Cabinet touching the same—

Very respectfully
Your ob^{t} serv^{t}
Z. TAYLOR.[2]

P. S.

At the last meeting of the Cabinet it was determined not to meet again until tomorrow evening; would it not be

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
[2] Ibid.

well to meet this evening at 8 oclock P.M. to arrange the matter in question, if so, please notify the other gentlemen.

Z. T.

MR. FRENCH

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your note of this evening I beg leave to say that Col. Bliss inadvertently omitted dating the invitation intended for you, and as he is absent this evening, I hasten to say that the invitation is for six o'clock on Thursday next. Another one will be sent to you on Monday, and in the mean time you will please excuse this awkward oversight.

Very respectfully yours

BETTY T. BLISS [1]

Saturday evening.

[1] Dreer Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

(To be continued.)